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REMARKS

Claims 1-34 are pending herein.

Claims 1-34 are rejected.

Claims 1, 9, 12, 22, 29-31, 33 and 34 are currently amended.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 29-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Baacke et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,116,586).

In light of the amendments to independent claims 29 and 33, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) since Baacke et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of claims 29-34.

Baacke et al. fails to disclose invention of claims 29-32

It is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 29, and claims 30-32 as dependent therefrom, since Baacke et al. fails to disclose a copper zeolite catalyst comprising "a zeolite carrier having a silicon/aluminum mole ratio of from about 31 to about 95; and copper provided on said zeolite carrier in a quantity of from about 5.3% to about

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10.0% by weight", as set forth in amended claim 29 and defined by claims 30-32 as dependent from amended claim 29.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 29-32 is thus respectfully solicited.

Baacke et al. fails to disclose invention of claims 33 and 34

It is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 33, and claim 34 as dependent from amended claim 33, since Baacke et al. fails to disclose a zeolite carrier comprising "a silicon/aluminum mole ratio of from about 31 to about 95 and copper provided on said zeolite carrier in a quantity of at least about 5.3%", as set forth in amended claim 33 and defined by claim 34 as dependent from amended claim 33.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 33 and 34 is thus respectfully solicited.

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Claims 12-21 and 29-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

102(b) as being anticipated by Miura et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5.427.753).

In light of the amendments to independent claims 12, 29 and 33, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 12-21 and 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) since Baacke et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of claims 12-21 and 29-34.

Miura et al. fails to disclose invention of claims 12-21

It is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 12, and claims 13-21 as dependent from amended claim 12, since Miura et al. fails to teach or suggest a process for preparing a catalyst comprising "...defining a copper zeolite catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C...", as set forth in amended claim 12 and defined by claims 13-21 as dependent from amended claim 12.

In contrast, in col. 3, lines 56-58, Miura et al. teaches that the ion exchange reaction temperature of the Miura et al. process is "preferably from room temperature to $100~^{\circ}\text{C}$ ".

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Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to anticipate claims 12-21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 12-21 is thus respectfully solicited.

Miura et al. fails to disclose invention of claims 29 32

It is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 29, and claims 30~32 as dependent therefrom, since Miura et al. fails to disclose a copper zeolite catalyst comprising "a zeolite carrier having a silicon/aluminum mole ratio of from about 31 to about 95; and copper provided on said zeolite carrier in a quantity of from about 5.3% to about 10.0% by weight", as set forth in amended claim 29 and defined by claims 30-32 as dependent from amended claim 29.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to anticipate claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 29-32 is thus respectfully solicited.

Miura et al. fails to disclose invention of claims 33 and 34

It is respectfully submitted that Miura ct al. fails to disclose each of the limitations of amended claim 33,

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and claim 34 as dependent from amended claim 33, since Miura et al. fails to disclose fails to disclose a zeolite carrier comprising "a silicon/aluminum mole ratio of from about 31 to about 95 and copper provided on said zeolite carrier in a quantity of at least about 5.3%", as set forth in amended claim 33 and defined by claim 34 as dependent from amended claim 33.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to anticipate claims 33 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 33 and 34 is thus respectfully solicited.

Claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rosback.

In light of the amendments to claim 12, it is respectfully submitted that Rosback fails to anticipate claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) since Rosback fails to disclose each and every limitation of claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21.

It is respectfully submitted that Rosback fails to disclose each and every limitation of amended claim 12, and claims 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 as dependent from amended claim 12, since Rosback fails to disclose a process for preparing a catalyst comprising "...defining a copper zeolite

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catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C...", as set forth in amended claim 12 and defined by claims 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 as dependent from amended claim 12.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Rosback fails to anticipate claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Reconsideration and allowance of claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 19 and 20 is thus respectfully solicited.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102/103

Claims 1-11 and 22-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Baacke et al.

In light of the amendments to claims 1, 9 and 22, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. neither anticipates claims 1-11 and 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) nor renders claims 1-11 and 22-28 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), since Baacke et al. does not disclose each and every limitation defined by the claims or teach or suggest all of the limitations defined by the claims.

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Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest invention of claims 1-8

respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 1-8 since Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a catalyst prepared by "...defining a copper zeolite catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C", as set forth in amended claim 1 and defined by claims 2-8 as dependent from amended claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 1-8 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-8 is therefore respectfully solicited.

Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest invention of claims 9-11

In light of the amendments to claim 9, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 9-11 since Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or

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suggest a catalyst prepared by "..defining a copper zeolite catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and said zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C; and calcinating said copper zeolite catalyst at a temperature of from about 550°C to about 700°C", as set forth in amended claim 9 and defined by claims 10 and 11 as dependent from amended claim 9.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 9-11 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 9-11 is therefore respectfully solicited.

Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest invention of claims 22-28

In light of the amendments to claim 22, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 22-28 since Baacke et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a process for removing nitrogen oxides from a gaseous medium, comprising "causing an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at at a temperature of from

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respectfully solicited.

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about 4°C to about 14°C ...", as set forth in amended claim 22 and defined by claims 23-28 as dependent from amended

claim 22.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Baacke et al. fails to anticipate claims 22-28 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 22-28 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 22-28 is therefore

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Miura et al.

In light of the amendments to claims 1 and 9, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. neither anticipates claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) nor renders claims 1-11 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), since Miura et al. does not disclose each and every limitation defined by the claims or teach or suggest all of the limitations defined by the claims.

Miura et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest invention of claims 1-8

In light of the amendments to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. Fails to disclose,

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teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 1-8 since Miura et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a catalyst prepared by "...defining a copper zeolite catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C", as set forth in amended claim 1 and defined by claims 2-8 as dependent from amended claim 1.

In contrast, in col. 3, lines 56-58, Miura et al. teaches an ion exchange temperature of "preferably from room temperature to 100°C".

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to anticipate claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 1-8 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-8 is therefore respectfully solicited.

Miura et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest invention of claims 9-11

In light of the amendments to claim 9, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 9-11 since Miura et al. fails to disclose, teach or suggest a catalyst prepared by "...defining a copper zeolite catalyst

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by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and said zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aqueous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C; and calcinating said copper zeolite catalyst at a temperature of from about 550°C to about 700°C", as set forth in amended claim 9 and defined by claims 10 and 11 as dependent from amended claim 9.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Miura et al. fails to anticipate claims 9-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 9-11 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 9-11 is therefore respectfully solicited.

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35

U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Rosback.

In light of the amendments to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that Rosback neither anticipates claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) nor renders claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 obvious under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), since Rosback does not disclose each and every limitation defined by the claims or teach or suggest all of the limitations defined by the claims.

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It is respectfully submitted that Rosback fails to disclose, teach or suggest all of the limitations of claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 since Rosback fails to disclose, teach or suggest a catalyst prepared by "...defining a copper zeolite catalyst by carrying out an ion exchange reaction between copper ions and [a] zeolite carrier in [a] cupric salt aquoous solution at a temperature of from about 4°C to about 14°C", as set forth in amended claim 1 and defined by claims 3, 5 and 7 as dependent from amended claim 1.

In contrast, in col. 9, lines 9-11, Rosback teaches that the exchange temperature is "from about 15 °C to about 50 °C".

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Rosback fails to anticipate claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102 or render claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 obvious under 35 U.S.C. Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3, 5 and 7 is therefore respectfully solicited.

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Conclusion

Every effort has been made to amend applicants' claims in order to define the invention in the scope to which it is entitled. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-34 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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